



## **Module Handbook**

[Modules are available to students coming on the following incoming programmes:  
non-European exchange; European exchange; full-year fee-paying study abroad]

## **Incoming Students**

**2025/2026**

**History**

## Content

<b>A: THE DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>3</b>
A1: Exchange Coordinator .....	3
<b>B: DEGREE STRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTION .....</b>	<b>4</b>
C1: General .....	4
C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions .....	5
<b>D: MODULE DETAILS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
D1: Modules available to all European students .....	6

## **A: THE DEPARTMENT**

The History Department was recently rated one of the best in the UK in a survey by the Sunday Times, a major British newspaper. The Department has a very strong record in terms of student satisfaction, and an international reputation for research excellence. The department presently comprises some 50 Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professors, and a number of research associates and part-time lecturers.

The Department is located close to the Norman cathedral and castle which together form a World Heritage Site. The main University lecture halls are a short walk away, the main University Library is at a walking distance of ten to fifteen minutes.

### **A1: Exchange Coordinator**

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## **B: DEGREE STRUCTURE**

The History Department offers the Honours degree *History BA (Hons)*.

The Department also participates in Joint Honours degrees with the Departments of Classics and English and the School for Modern Languages and Cultures, and offers teaching as part of two Combined Honours programmes.

All degrees at Durham have a modular structure, consisting of five modules each year for three years (with some modules weighted as double modules). First-year modules and third year single modules are usually studied over all three terms of the teaching year; second year modules, known as 'short fat modules', are clustered into one or two terms. All modules are examined or assessed in the year in which they are taught: this means that at the end of the first year there are preliminary examinations, and that

the final degree class is determined by the examinations taken in the second and third year.

## C: REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

**This section contains important information for setting up your academic programme at Durham University. Please read through this section carefully before considering your modules and filling in the Learning Agreement**

### C1: General

#### Choice of Modules

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR STUDENTS: PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR LEARNING AGREEMENT**

At Durham University European agreements are signed by individual university departments and are not university-wide agreements. This means that, in general, students will have to choose modules (courses) within the Durham University department through which the European agreement with their home university has been signed (students should check with the Exchange Coordinator in their university if they are not sure which department this is). Modules offered by other departments are subject to availability and can only be taken with prior consent from the relevant department. *Incoming students must take at least 50% of their modules in the host department and can take modules outside in no more than two additional departments.* Certain restrictions may also apply to courses in some departments and students need to follow the advice below carefully before completing their application form.

Please clearly indicate the modules you wish to take in the application form for approval by the respective department(s). Before completing your application form, it is very important that you read carefully the relevant departmental section(s) of the Module Handbook to check which modules are available to you and any restrictions which may apply. It is imperative that a properly completed application form is submitted. Only complete applications can be processed.

Section *D: Module Details* provides a list of modules available for European students in the department where the agreement has been established (receiving department) as well as a list of modules available for students coming in through other departments (external departments). Please choose from these modules only!

To find out about the details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the module regulations to see which modules will be running in 2025/2026, the regulations for the V100 History programme have all modules which are running in 2025/26 listed: **Will be made available in April 2025**

## **C2: Departmental Requirements and Restrictions**

The History Department admits both European students coming to Durham through its own links and, **subject to places still being available**, those coming in through other departments. European students from other departments may take a **maximum of two** modules in History subject to places still being available.

**Please note, however, that the department only accepts European students on full-year exchanges!**

Some of the history modules are taught by lecture and seminar throughout the year; several others, especially at level 2, are taught in a much more concentrated way in just one term (short-fat modules). This intensive form of teaching means that students should not expect to do more than two such courses maximum in a term, since it will otherwise be too intensive.

European students are mainly encouraged to take level 1 modules, but if the European student has a good level of English Language and prior experience of studying History (e.g. their home university degree is History based) then they can take level 2 modules and occasionally they can be considered for a level 3 single module too, but these modules are conceptually challenging and historiographically dense. The level 1 Making History module, level 2 Conversations modules and level 3 Special Subjects are closed to European students.

In history we try our very best to match students with their desired courses, but there is huge pressure on places, and module availability varies according to staff, and so we ask our incoming students to be flexible.

European students are assessed in the same way as any other Durham undergraduate. This means some courses at level 2 (Michaelmas only) will be assessed entirely on one summative essay of 3,000 words and a 1000 word assignment; otherwise modules will typically consist of a summative essay and an examination.

## **D: MODULE DETAILS**

This section contains a list of modules European students can choose from. Please only select from the modules listed in sections D1 or D2 in the Module Handbooks for each subject!

To find further details for each module (teaching methods and contact hours, prerequisite academic background, method of assessment, content, etc.) please refer to the module regulations using the following link: Will be made available in 2025 . **Please note that the**

**list of available modules is provisional and subject to change.** We will do our best to allow students onto modules of their choice, but this may not always be possible and cannot be confirmed until registration in October of the year of entry.

**D1: Modules available to all European students**

**YEAR 1 (The following modules run all academic year, and include one summative essay 2000 words and one 2 hour exam)**

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
		10
HIST1641	DECLINE AND CRISIS? EUROPE 1300-1500	10
HIST1541	MODERN TIMES: A CULTURAL HISTORY OF EUROPE 1860-1960	10
HIST1651	IMAGINING EAST ASIA IN THE MODERN WORLD	10
HIST1691	THE ATLANTIC ARCHIPELAGO	10
HIST1681	POWER IN AFRICA	10
HIST1721	THE STATE WE'RE IN: NEW HISTORIES OF MODERN BRITAIN	10
HIST1611	THE RISE AND FALL OF AMERICAN SLAVERY, 1607-1865	10
HIST1701	TRANSFORMATIONS IN THE LATE ANTIQUE MEDITERRANEAN, C.300-C.700 CE	10
HIST1711	SOUTH ASIA: TEXTS, ARTEFACTS, EMPIRES	10

**YEAR 2 (the following modules run termly, either in term one or term two. The modules in term one are assessed by a 3000 word summative essay and 1000 word assignment, and the modules in term two are assessed by a 2000 word essay and 2 hour exam. We do not permit taking more than two level 2 modules per term)**

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
HIST21P1	RECORDS, ARCHIVES AND POWER IN THE MIDDLE AGES (TERM 1)	10
HIST2951	ROBIN HOOD (TERM 1)	10
HIST21G1	POLITICAL AUTHORITY AND COMMUNITY IN MEDIEVAL EGYPT C.900-C.1500 (TERM 1)	10
HIST2201	MODERN CHINA'S TRANSFORMATIONS (TERM 1)	10
		10
		10
		10
HIST2931	THE BOOK OF HOURS (TERM 1)	10

HIST2541	ELDERS, DESPOTS, MODERNISERS: REIMAGINING THE STATE IN NORTHEAST AFRICA (TERM 1)	10
HIST20Q1	THE EARLY MODERN WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN: SEASCAPE OF MOBILITIES? (TERM 1)	10
HIST20K1	THE SUPERCONDUCTING SUPER COLLIDER: THE POLITICS OF SCIENCE IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICA (TERM 1)	
HIST21F1	WEALTH AND POVERTY IN AFRICA (TERM 1)	10
		10
HIST20A1	CONSTRUCTING IDENTITIES: GENDER, SEXUALITY AND AGE IN ENGLAND (TERM 1)	10
HIST20H1	INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS (TERM 1)	10
HIST 2721	THE COURT: ART AND POWER IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE (TERM 1)	10
HIST21Q1	THE BEAT GOES ON: DRUM MAGAZINE, URBAN LIFE AND PRINT CULTURE IN APARTHIED SOUTH AFRICA (TERM 1)	10
HIST21H1	A PURE LAND? GENDER, CASTE AND COMMUNITY IN SOUTH ASIA, C.1750-1950 (TERM 1)	10
HIST2431	CIVILISING PEOPLES: PROGRESS, GOVERNANCE AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE (TERM 2)	10
HIST2351	MEMORY AND CONFLICT IN EUROPE SINCE 1918 (TERM 2)	10
HIST21L1	EARLY MODERN AMERICAS (TERM 2)	10
		10
HIST2871	NATIVE AMERICANS AND MINORITY RIGHTS IN THE US, 1914-2000(TERM 2)	10
HIST20C1	GENDER AND SEXUALITY DURING BRITAIN'S LONG TWENTIETH CENTURY (TERM 2)	10
HIST20E1	LAW AND DISORDER IN THE BARBARIAN KINGDOMS C.500-800 AD (TERM 2)	10
HIST20D1	THE NAZI DICTATORSHIP: CULTURE AND SOCIETY (TERM 2)	10
HIST20R1	PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORIES (TERM 2)	10
HIST2641	CHINA, THE WEST AND THE REST: EXCHANGES, IDEOLOGY, AND PRACTICE IN LATE IMPERIAL CHINA (TERM 2)	10

HIST21R1	EARLY MEDIEVAL IBERIA: FROM CONQUEST TO CALIPHATE, 409 1031 (TERM 2)	10
HISTL2NEW2	A CHANGE IS GONNA COME (TERM 2)	10
HIST21M1	THE HISTORY OF MODERN UKRAINE FROM BORDERLAND TO BLOODLAND, 1850S TO 2000S (TERM 2)	10

**YEAR 3 (The following modules run all academic year, and include one summative essay 3000 words and one 2 hour exam)**

MODULE CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
HIST3471	FACISM/ANTI-FACISM	10
HIST30P1	EAST ASIA IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE: THE MAKING OF THE TWO KOREAS	10
HIST3441	HISTORIES OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM	10
HIST3431	HISTORY AND ITS AUDIENCES	10
HIST30V1	LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND DEMOCRACY	10
HIST31M1	SLAVERY IN THE LATE MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN, 1250 TO 1500	10
HIST3071	REVOLUTION AND HISTORY	10
HIST35A1	THE METROPOLIS: URBAN HISTORIES OF MODERN EUROPE, C. 1790-1990	10
HIST3461	EMPIRES AND STATES IN EARLY MODERN ASIA: NOMADS, SLAVES, SCHOLARS, RULERS	10